

**I Claim:**

1. A cooker for outdoor use having a body with a removable hood at the top of the body, said body containing a fire box adjacent a bottom portion of said body, said body having a chimney extending though said top of said body, and a cooking surface located under said hood, said cooker comprising:

(a) means for covering said fire box to prevent contact with food drippings from said cooking surface and for diverting combustion gases and solids from said cooking surface.

2. The cooker of claim 1 wherein said means for covering and diverting comprise a convection plate extending over a majority of a horizontal area in said body over said fire box.

3. The cooker of claim 2, wherein said convection plate further comprises an opening for a chimney flue.

4. The cooker of claim 3, wherein said convection plate is approximately one to three inches above said fire box.

5. The cooker of claim 4, further comprising a first chimney flue extending beneath said convection plate.
- 5 6. The cooker of claim 5, further comprising means for generating steam.
7. The cooker of claim 6, wherein said means for generating steam comprise a body of water arranged in a bottom portion of said  
10 cooker and extending around a portion of said fire box.
8. The cooker of claim 7, further comprising means for draining said water from said cooker.
- 15 9. The cooker of claim 8, wherein said firebox has an open top, and sealed sides and bottom to stop migration of moisture.
10. A cooker for outdoor use having a body with a removable hood at the top of said body, and containing a fire box adjacent a bottom  
20 portion of said body, said cooker including a chimney extending

through the top of said body, and a cooking surface under said hood, said cooker comprising:

(a) flue means for diverting combustion gases and solids from said cooking surface.

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11. The cooker of claim 10, wherein said means for diverting comprise an extended chimney flue in close proximity to said fire box.

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12. The cooker of claim 11, wherein the bottom of said extended chimney flue is approximately one to three inches above said fire box.

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13. The cooker of claim 12, further comprising a convection plate arranged over said fire box.

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14. The cooker of claim 13, wherein said convection plate is between one and three inches above said fire box, and contains an aperture for said extended chimney flue.

15. The cooker of claim 14, further comprising means for generating steam.

16. The cooker of claim 15, wherein said means for generating steam  
5 comprise a body of water rising to between two and seven inches  
below said extended chimney flue.

17. A cooker for outdoor use having a body with a removable hood at  
the top of said body, and containing a fire box adjacent a bottom  
10 portion of said body, said cooker also including a primary chimney  
extending through said top of said body, and a cooking surface  
under said hood, said cooker comprising:

(a) exhaust means for controlling cooking temperature of an  
area around said cooking surface.

18. The cooker of claim 17, further comprising means for generating  
steam.

19. The cooker of claim 18, wherein said means for generating steam  
20 comprise a body of water arranged in the bottom of said cooker.

20. The cooker of claim 19, wherein said exhaust means control steam content in said cooker.

5 21. The cooker of claim 20, wherein said exhaust means comprise a secondary chimney extending through a top of said hood.

22. The cooker of claim 21, further comprising a baffle plate mounted under said hood and beneath said secondary chimney.

10 23. A cooker for outdoor use having a body with a removable hood at the top of said body, and containing a fire box adjacent a bottom portion of said body, said cooker also including a primary chimney extending through said top of said body, and a cooking surface  
15 under said hood, said cooker comprising:

(a) means for balancing heat, smoke and steam in said cooker.

24. The cooker of claim 23, wherein said means for balancing comprise: a first chimney damper; a second chimney damper; an

extended flue for at least one chimney; and a convection plate between a fire box and a cooking surface.